



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

judges threatened with the deprivation of this and alarmed at the prospect of being thrown back on the exercise of their unaided judgment and greater or less acuteness of perception, without the relief which the jury system gives to the bench. As the judges, moreover, were required to be present during the application of torture, they became hardened and indifferent to human suffering. How complete was this indifference is evident from the fact (p. 20) that the accounts of the judicial expenses show that the prolonged sessions in the torture-chamber were relieved of their tedium by banquets in which the wine flowed freely.

M. Hubert tells us (p. 13) that he has met with no traces in modern times of the torture of witnesses. Strictly speaking, the *question préalable*, which he fully recognizes (pp. 25-33), wherein the convicted criminal was tortured to discover his accomplices, was the torture of a witness. In the Spanish Inquisition torture *in caput alienum* was a recognized resource in frequent use for the relief of a doubting tribunal.

There are other points which it would be interesting to discuss if space permitted, but it must suffice to say that the work is one which all students of judicial institutions can consult with profit, as it is based on conscientious research and furnished with ample documentary support.

HENRY CHARLES LEA.

*La France d'après les Cahiers de 1789.* Par EDMÉ CHAMPION. (Paris : Armand Colin et Cie. 1897. Pp. 257.)

FOR the student of the French Revolution, one of the most important books of the year is undoubtedly this work by Champion. Professor Aulard refers to it in the most complimentary manner in the June number of *La Révolution Française*. He says, to quote his own words: "Il nous est bien difficile de louer ici autant que nous le voudrions, le livre de notre collègue, collaborateur et ami. Il nous suffira de l'avoir signalé à nos lecteurs comme l'une des œuvres les plus remarquables de notre littérature historique et comme un instrument de travail très-neuf, très-solide et très-commode."

For a long time Champion has been a careful student of the *cahiers*, and this work is the development of chapters that appeared in earlier works. The numerous articles contributed to *La Révolution Française*, several chapters in his excellent book entitled *Esprit de la Révolution Française* (Paris, 1887), his contribution to the *Histoire Générale*, edited by Lavis and Rambaud (Vol. VIII., Chap. I., *La France en 1789*, 51 pp.), all laid the foundation for the work published this year. It is clearly, then, not a maiden effort, but the result of long study and of ripe scholarship.

On the title-page of the book appears the following quotation from Mirabeau: "Il n'est personne qui n'avoue que la Nation a été préparée à la Révolution par le sentiment de ses Maux, bien plus que par le progrès des lumières." This sentence, quoted some years before in another work (*Esprit de la Révolution*, p. 59) is, in a certain sense, the thesis

that Champion attempts to defend and develop. The success of his effort is due to the fact that he allows the *cahiers* to speak for themselves.

He does not deceive himself as to the value of the work that he has produced. He declares that "le tableau de la France en 1789 ne pourra être tracé d'une façon complète, définitive, que lorsque nous serons en possession de tous les cahiers, lorsque le texte en aura été publié sans les fautes de toute nature qui défigurent ceux qui sont dans les *Archives Parlementaires*," that all work undertaken in advance must necessarily be "très-imparfait," must be "recommencé un jour, corrigé, remplacé par une image plus fidèle." What he offers, then, is only a sketch, containing certain essential traits. Quoting Malouet, he calls the *cahiers* "le dépôt public et irrécusable de toutes les opinions et des vœux de la France entière," and adds "si Tocqueville et Taine les avaient étudiés comme il faut, ils auraient mieux compris la chute de l'ancien régime."

Two pages of bibliography, dealing with the *cahiers* published up to the present time, and two short chapters on "*La convocation des États-Généraux*" and "*La rédaction des Cahiers*" serve as an introduction to the work. The remaining fourteen chapters, forming the body of the book, deal with the following topics: III. La Constitution; IV. Les Obstacles à l'Unité nationale; V. Les Provinces; VI. La Royauté; VII. Les trois Ordres; VIII. Les Finances; IX. La Justice; X. Les Campagnes et les Droits féodaux; XI. L'Industrie et le Commerce; XII. L'Armée et la Marine; XIII. La Religion et l'Église; XIV. L'Instruction publique; XV. La Douceur de vivre sous Louis XVI.; XVI. L'Esprit des Hommes de '89.

In every chapter the writer demonstrates that a large part of the stock generalizations concerning the France of 1789 rests upon insufficient evidence.

He gives enough space to the question of the convocation of the Estates to show the peculiar interest of the subject and the unsatisfactory manner in which it has been treated. In his chapter on the editing of the *cahiers*, he denies that great importance should be attached to the use of models. It would be impossible to note here the manner in which all of the controverted questions are dealt with by Champion, but undoubtedly the most important parts of the book are his treatment of the attitude of the French toward monarchy and toward religion, the unexpected harmony that existed among the orders in the struggle against absolutism, and the absence of any serious revolutionary plan previous to the assembly of the Estates.

Each assertion is supported by frequent citations from the *cahiers* and by abundant footnotes. The doubt sometimes arises as to the value of certain broad generalizations based upon a limited number of *cahiers*, but the writer did not regard his work as final, and in a certain sense disarms criticism. He certainly has blazed the way for all students of the Revolution who in the future will attempt, through a study of the *cahiers*, to show us what the France of 1789 was like and what changes were demanded at the time by its people.

FRED MORROW FLING.